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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/296,990	04/22/1999	DAVID C. SWIFT	REVEO-4	9136

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EXAMINER

PHILIPPE, GIMS S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

GM

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/296,990

Applicant(s)
Swift et al.

Examiner
Gims Philippe

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2613



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 4 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a first office action in response to application no. 09/296,990 filed on April 22, 1999 in which claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zalm (US Patent no. 4,399,456).

Regarding claim 1, Zalm discloses the same method for controlling a line blanker, the line blanker being for converting a stereoscopic image into a line blanked stereoscopic image by alternately blanking the even and odd lines of the stereoscopic image (See Zalm fig. 1, cameras 2 and 3 and signal generator 4, generating the stereoscopic image) whereby the line-blanked image can be viewed on a standard non-interleaved display device by a viewer wearing shutter glasses having a left eye viewing portion and a right eye viewing portion (See Zalm col. 5, lines 63-68 and col. 6, lines 1-2). The method comprising providing a stereoscopic image (See Zalm fig. 1, cameras 2,

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and 3, and signal generator 4), converting the stereoscopic image to the line blanked image (See Zalm fig. 1, line blanking circuits 6 and 7 and display 12), and providing a line blanked control signal embedded in the stereoscopic image, the line blanker being responsive to the control signal (See Zalm fig. 1, signals SV1 and SV2 and col. 4, lines 5-7).

As per claims 2 and 7-8, providing a control signal to determine the first line as well as the claimed first left and first right lines of the line blanked image is an inherent feature of the combination of the line blanker circuits 6 and 7 of ifg. 1 along with the line synchronizing signal when the line by line processing is being performed (See Zalm col. 3, lines 66-68, and col. 4, lines 1-5).

As per claim 3, the toggle signal is found when the step of holding at the line period 64 micro seconds that the line blanking period has duration of 11.8 to 12.3 microseconds (See Zalm col. 4, lines 8-35).

As per claims 4, 5 and 9 the signal generator 4 inherently must provide the line enable/disable (wherein the turning on/off is necessary) signals to the line blanker circuits 6 and 7 of fig. 1.

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As per claim 6, since Zalm anticipates using a color display device, providing coded colors in the stereoscopic signal is rather an inherent feature in the system if color signals are to be displayed (See Zalm col. 6, lines 21-27).

As per claim 10, the change over device 23 of fig. 1 which has two inputs for receiving the line blanking signals SHB1 and SHB2 provides the claimed line double signal.

As per claim 11, the delay unit 24 does store the selected line to place it in the blanking line for viewing by the viewer (See Zalm fig. 1, delay unit 24, and col. 7, lines 59-65).

As per claims 12, 16, and 20-21, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the above rejection of claim 1. In addition, Zalm further discloses a line interpolator that receives the stereoscopic image and alternately substitutes blanks for even or odd lines in the stereoscopic image (See Zalm fig. 1, line blanking circuits 6 and 7), a line doubler that places each line of the stereoscopic image in a line buffer (See Zalm change over device 23 of fig. 1, and blanking signals SHB1 and SHB2), an image fabrication unit that receives the stereoscopic image as adapted by the line interpolator (See Zalm image fabrication unit 4), a line processor that receives the stereoscopic image and the line blanked image and selects one of the images to transmit to display (See Zalm (See Zalm col. 3, lines 66-68, and col. 4, lines 1-5), and a control unit that monitors the stereoscopic image for a control signal and instructs the line processor which image to output on

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the control signal (See Zalm fig. 1, signal generator 4, and line blanker circuits 6 and 7), a line buffer that receives the stereoscopic image and alternately substitute blanks for odd and even lines (See Zalm fig. 1, delay unit 24 which performs the buffering function).

As per claims 13 and 17, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the above rejection of claim 12. In addition, Zalm further discloses the same line blanker further comprising a first line signal detector that detects a first line signal embedded in the stereoscopic image (See Zalm fig. 1, line blanker circuits 6 and 7, col. 3, lines 66-68, and col. 4, lines 1-5).

As per claims 14 and 18, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the above rejection of claim 12. In addition the toggle signal (See Zalm col. 4, lines 8-35 and col. 5, lines 11-29).

As per claims 15 and 19, since Zalm anticipates using a color display device, providing pattern of embedded colors in the stereoscopic signal is rather in inherent feature in the system if color signals are to be displayed (See Zalm col. 6, lines 21-27).

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Guralnick (US Patent no. 6,088,052) teaches 3D stereoscopic video display system.

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Isobe et al. (US Patent no. 5,786,848) teaches three-dimensional video signal generator and three-dimensional video display apparatus.

Tettington (US Patent no. 6,295,065) teaches method and apparatus to alternate stereoscopic image in a video display device.

Conclusion

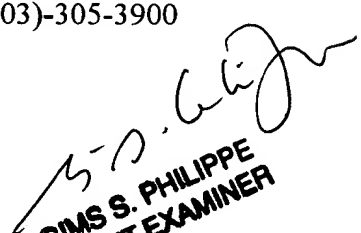
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gims S. Philippe whose telephone number is (703) 305-1107. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley, can be reached on (703) 305-4856. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) -308-9052 (formal responses) and (703) -308-5399 (for draft responses).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900

Gims S. Philippe

December 14, 2001


GIMS S. PHILIPPE
PATENT EXAMINER